

---

---

THE  
TRUE PATRIOT'S  
S P E E C H  
TO THE  
People of Rome.

---

From SALLUST.

---

*Indignatio & Dolor Omnibus,  
Vis ad Resistendum Nulli aderat. Vell. Patere.*

---

ROMANS,  
**T**HE Present Circumstances of our Affairs, the Power of the Prevailing *Faction*, Your Tame Submission, the Loss of all Justice, and the Danger of Speaking Truth, are such Discouragements, that I should be Silent, as well as Others, at this Time, if my Concern for my Country were not above all other Considerations.

A

'Tis



THE  
TRUE PATRIOT'S  
S P E E C H  
TO THE  
People of Rome.

From SALLUST.

*Indignatio & Dolor Omnibus,  
Vis ad Resistendum Nulli aderat. Vell. Patere.*

ROMANS,  
**T**HE Present Circumstances of our Affairs, the  
Power of the Prevailing *Faction*, Your Tame Sub-  
mission, the Loss of all Justice, and the Danger of  
Speaking Truth, are such Discouragements, that I  
should be Silent, as well as Others, at this Time, if my Con-  
cern for my Country were not above all other Considerations.

A

'Tis

'Tis hardly worth While, *Fellow-Citizens*, to put You in mind of the Indignities You have receiv'd of late Years, and the ill Treatment the Bravest Assertors of Your Privileges have met with, from some of the Nobility, when We are now reduc'd so low, that a Few Great and Ill Men govern Us, whose Right it Is, and whose Chief Business it Should be, to Watch and Keep such Miscreants in Awe. However, for my Part, I have resolv'd to make War upon this powerful and pernicious *Cabal*, and will use that Liberty, which, as a *Freeman of Rome*, I am legally entitled to; but 'tis in Your Power only, to make my good Endeavours effectually serviceable to You. I wou'd not be understood to excite You to any kind of Force: No; Let Us fight 'em with their own Weapons. The same Engines which they have always made Use of, to raise themselves, will, I doubt not, if rightly employ'd, ev'n yet be sufficient to pull 'em down. Not long since, We thought We had Reason to complain of the Squand'ring the Publick Money, and of the Exorbitant Riches, and Excessive Power, of some Particular Persons; but Now, those Very Persons are so far from being contented to go off with Impunity, that They have agen work'd Themselves into Power. They have their Pontificates, their Governments of Provinces, and their Triumphal Processions: They strut; They domineer; and treat Us with such Scorn, and Insolence, as if They thought it not Robbery, but an Honour, to have cheated the Commonwealth. Our Slaves, *My Countrymen*, Our purchas'd Slaves have Spirit enough to disobey the unjust Commands of their Masters: Shall We, that were Born Free, stand Still, and patiently suffer the Yoak to be put about Our Necks? But, pray, Let Us consider, a little, what sort of Men These are, that have thus seiz'd upon the Government? Why, they are Men of Evil Principles, and Worse Practices, Designing, Proud, Rapacious, Violent, and Unforgiving; Determin'd, by all Methods,



thods, to prosecute their Interest, and postpone to That all Regards to Religion and Honour. And this *Society*, this *Cabal*, What shall I call it? This *Junto*, are firmly and strongly united, by that Wicked Tye, of having All been involv'd in the Same, or in Equal Crimes! However, if We had been as Careful to Preserve our Liberties as They have been Industrious to Wrest 'em from Us, Our Constitution had not been so Shock'd and Unsettled as tis now; nor would so many great Posts of the Commonwealth have been in the Hands of the most Forward, instead of the most Deserving. Our Ancestors ventur'd their Lives and their Fortunes, to preserve their Privileges, and to keep up a proper Balance in the Government; And shall We Not stir One Step, Not dare to run the Least Risque, to deliver down those Privileges to Our Posterity, which We have receiv'd from those Ancestors? Surely, We ought the More Resolutely to Contend for 'em, as 'tis More Dishonourable to Lose 'em, than Never to have Had 'em. But, perhaps, it may be ask'd, What is it proper for Us to do, in this Situation? Shall We address? Shall We impeach? I will not take upon Me to prescribe to You a Particular Method of Proceeding; but I will be bold to say, That Some Stand ought Immediately to be made, Some Stop, if possible, to be put, to the growing Tyranny of this *Junto*; that the Commons of *Rome* may never have This Reproach, That They, who us'd to Oppose and Condemn the Least Irregular Step, or Encroachment, ev'n in their *Kings*, now Lie down, Easy and Satisfy'd, under the Heavy'st, and Most Arbitrary Oppression, of Five or Six of their Own *Fellow-Subjects*! If We have not Spirit enough to rowze Ourselves upon this important Occasion, Our Condition is very Wretched, and almost Desperate; For, Whilst We are subdu'd at Home, faster than We conquer Abroad; Whilst no Man is allow'd a Place in the Se-

nate-

Edwards

16 Aug. 65

*nate-House*, that is not thought, by These Masters, Less likely to Defend the Peoples Liberties, than to Give up his Own; Whilst hardly any One can be secure from Punishment, that does not deserve it; Whilst we give such Immense Taxes, without Appropriation; and let 'em be distributed, without Account; Whilst We have not Courage enough ev'n to own our Fears; Whilst We are forced to magnify Successful Blunders: In a Word, Whilst we lavish our Treasure, and husband the War; a Man may venture to prophesy, without being a Conjuror, That, unless the Gods are pleas'd to work a Miracle for Us at Home, as they have done Many Abroad, the Time is not far off, in which this Ancient and Noble Frame of Government will be Totally demolish'd; and We, that have been so often *Conquerors*, shall be no longer *Free-men*.

*Dixi* — C. MEMMIUS.

*Amsterdam*: Printed in the Year 1656.

